



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In application of: Johnson et al.

Application No.: 10/624,066

Filed: July 21, 2003

TISSUE DISTRACTION DEVICE

)  
)  
) Examiner: Not yet assigned  
)  
) Art Unit: 3732  
)  
) July 16, 2004

**SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendment to the claims be entered. No Office Action has been received in this case. This Preliminary Amendment adds fourteen (14) new claims, with two (2) new independent claims. The Commissioner is requested to charge the fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16(b),(c) in the amount of \$212.00 (two hundred and twelve dollars) to Deposit Account 13-0014. This fee includes the fee of \$86.00 (2 x \$43.00) for the two additional independent claims and the fee of \$126.00 (14 x \$9.00) for the fourteen additional claims. The Commissioner is authorized to credit any overpayment or deduct any additional amounts from Deposit Account 13-0014.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:  
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Arlington, VA 22313-1450 on July 16, 2004.

Michael D. Beck

Name of person mailing Document or Fee

Michael D. Beck  
Signature

July 16, 2004  
Date of Signature

07/20/2004 EAREGAY1 00000046 130014 10624066

01 FC:2201 86.00 DA  
02 FC:2202 117.00 DA

08/04/2004 TCOLE1 00000001 130014 10624066

01 FC:2202 9.00 DA